cognizable in British India in 1898, and it was thought necessary that they should be made cognizable here also in the interests of justice.

Mr. P. Kesava Pillai stated that he was not in favour of the amendment proposed, as the power might, as often as not, be abused by the Police, resulting in danger to the public.

Mr. Richardson pointed out that the planters had difficulties in having the thefts committed by cartmen in regard to the tea entrusted to them for transport, taken cognizance of by the Police, on the ground that the offences concerned were not technically thefts.

Messers Madhavan Tampy and P. K. Kesava Pillai also expressed themselves against the amendment.

By direction of the Council, the letter received from the Superintendent of Police was read by the Secretary and considered by the Council.

After some discussion, the Council resolved that the amendment was not necessary.

Mr. Ananda Row proposed that the Bill be read again on a future day, of which notice should be given.

Seconded by Mr. Vieyra.

Carried.

THE FACTORIES BILL.

Mr. Ananda Row presented the report of the Select Committee on the Bill and moved that the report, with the Bill, be taken up for consideration by the Council.

The motion was put and agreed to.

Section 3.

Mr. Ananda Row said that factories for the purpose of preparing rubber and cardamoms, were similar to those for tea or coffee, and that the former should also be excluded from the scope of the proposed law. He therefore proposed that the word "or" occurring between the words "tea" and "coffee" in line 3 of Clause (d) be omitted and that the words "rubber or cardamom" be inserted between the words "coffee" and "plantation", in the same line.

Seconded by Mr. Richardson.

Carried.

Section 4.

Mr. Ananda Row then proposed that the third person plural "they", with necessary modifications according to the context, be substituted in this Section as well as throughout the Bill, for the word "it" and its modifications, wherever this latter pronoun is used to denote the "Government", except in Section 38, line 6, where the words "the opinion of the Government" should be substituted for the words "its opinion".

Seconded by Mr. Vieyra.

Carried.

Section 23.

The President observed that the age of nine years fixed as the minimum age of children fit for employment in factories, appeared to him to be too low, and that it was likely to draw away poor children to factory work, thereby depriving them of the chance of receiving elementary education. Further, factory work required, in

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his opinion, continuous and strenuous exertion, for which children of such tender age were by no means fitted. The President suggested that eleven years might, with advantage, be adopted as the minimum age, so that a child might have some five or six years quite free for elementary education.

The Council being of the same view, Mr. Ananda Row proposed that the word "eleven" be substituted for the word "nine" in line 6, Clause (a) of the Section.

Seconded by Mr. Vieyra.

Carried.

Mr. Ananda Row said that the time half-past five o'clock prescribed in Clause (*b*) was the time fixed in the British Indian Act and that it appeared to be too early an hour for the employment of children. Similarly, seven P. M. was too late an hour. He therefore proposed that the word "six" be substituted for the words "half-past five," and for the word "seven" in lines 2, 3 and 4 of Clause (*b*).

Seconded by Mr. Vieyra.

Carried.

Section 24.

Mr. Ananda Row said that the reasons urged for fixing six o'clock in the morning as the time for the commencement of work and six in the evening for the termination of work in the case of children, applied with equal force to women also. He therefore proposed that the word "six" might be substituted for the words "half-past five" as well as for the word "seven", in lines 2, 3 and 4 of Clause (*a*) of the Section.

Seconded by Mr. Krishnan Nair.

Carried.

Mr. Ananda Row also thought that eleven hours' work for women was a little too much. He accordingly proposed that the word "ten" be substituted for the word "eleven" in line 3 of Clause (*b*).

Seconded by Mr. Padmanabha Iyer.

Carried.

Section 27.

Mr. Ananda Row proposed that, agreeably to the change made in the duration of work in the case of women in Clause (b) of Section 24, the word "ten" might be substituted for the word "eleven" in the last line of this Section also.

Seconded by Mr. Vieyra.

Carried.

Section 51 (2).

Mr. Krishnan Nair said that this Clause, relating to different standards of time, could have very little application to so small a country as Travancore, where there was practically no difference in the standard of time between the most distant parts. He therefore proposed that this Clause be omitted.

Seconded by Mr. Vieyra.

Carried.

Mr. Ananda Row then proposed that the Bill, as amended by the Council, be read again on a future day, of which notice should be given.

The motion was put and agreed to.

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